

## **Rural Development**

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## CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON \$2.7 MILLION WASTEWATER FACILITY IN SPRINGFIELD, LOUISIANA – 180 Residents of Springfield to Benefit

SPRINGFIELD, November 17, 2003 – A groundbreaking ceremony today formally signaled the start of construction of a new wastewater facility in Springfield, Louisiana, which will serve 180 residents.

Springfield Mayor Charles Martin was joined by state and local officials at the wastewater facility on Freeman Street to officially break ground on the new construction project. "We have waited a long time for this day," said Mayor Martin. "Construction will last about a year—Springfield residents can expect to see improved services by this time next year."

This project was funded with over \$2.7 million in USDA Rural Development loan and grant funds. USDA Rural Development provides loans, grants, and loan guarantees for drinking water, sanitary sewer, solid waste, and storm drainage facilities in rural areas and cities and towns of 10,000 or less.

"Projects such as this will help improve the quality of life for the people of Springfield," said Michael B. Taylor, State Director, USDA Rural Development. "Not only will this make a difference to the people already living in Springfield, the improved services will attract new residents and businesses to the town."

USDA Rural Development provides a full range of rural development credit services in rural Louisiana. The Louisiana Rural Development State Office is located at 3727 Government Street, Alexandria, Louisiana 71302, and the telephone number is (318) 473-7921. There are four area offices, located throughout the state to serve Louisiana residents. Further information on USDA Rural Development's loan and grant programs can be obtained by visiting Rural Development's web site at: http://www.rurdev.usda.gov.

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